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- (54) Title of Invention: An Active Matrix Type Substrate for Liquid Crystal Display
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- (72) Inventor: Ken Sumiyoshic/o Nihon Electric Company, Ltd.5-33-1 Shiba, Minato, Tokyo
- (72) Inventor: Mikio Sakamotoc/o Nihon Electric Company, Ltd.5-33-1 Shiba, Minato, Tokyo
- (71) Applicant: Nihon Electric Company, Ltd.

5-7-1 Shiba, Minato, Tokyo

(74) Patent Attorney Shin Uchihara

Specification

Title of the Invention

An Active Matrix Type Substrate for Liquid Crystal Display

What Is Claimed

An Active Matrix Type Substrate for Liquid Crystal Display characterized as consisting of at least thin film semiconductor active elements formed in matrix shape on a insulating substrate, matrix interconnections for controlling and applying signals through said active elements, a transparent insulating planarizing film formed on said insulating substrate for covering said active elements and said matrix interconnections, and display electrodes formed on said insulating planarizing film.

Detailed Description of the Invention
(An Industrial Utilizable Field)

The present invention relates to an active matrix type substrate for liquid crystal display comprising active elements using a thin film semiconductor.

(The Conventional Technique)

Recently, the development of active matrix type liquid crystal display for high picture qualities by providing the active elements using the thin film semiconductor like as thin film transistor (TFT) or thin film diode (TFD) on each picture element is active. The liquid crystal display like that consists of

a liquid crystal being held between two substrates, other is the active matrix type substrate which said active elements are formed on matrix shape, the other is, for example, the counter substrate which a transparent electrode is formed on all the surface of the glass substrate. The transmitted liquid crystal display using a transparent substrate like as glass substrate for substrate to form active elements is developed, because the contrast TN type liquid crystal is usually used well.

As the material of thin film semiconductor for channel region of active elements, amorphous silicon (a-Si) and poly silicon (poly-Si) is mainly used. A-Si is applied for many of recent pocket type liquid crystal television and etc. because it is able to be formed variously at low temperature using the cheap glass substrate. Poly-Si can realize the very stable against light and highly efficient active element because its mobility is higher than that of a-Si and its optical sensitivity is much dimmer than that of single crystal silicon or a-Si. Though Poly-Si is expected to be applied for the next high resolution liquid crystal display etc., in the existing circumstances, the technique forming in a large area easily at low temperature as a cheap glass substrate used is not accomplished.

As the method of forming poly-Si active element, there is a method of using an usual silicon IC or the high-temperature poly-Si process in the LSI process. But as the material of the substrate, a quartz or single crystal silicon substrate that can endure in the high-temperature process like that is needed. For example, the method of forming active matrix substrate: using the latter single crystal silicon substrate in this process, forming the peripheral driver circuit that is needed no incident light, high-speed and high resolution in the single crystal silicon transistor circuit, and forming the

active element that has the incident light by poly-Si TFT, is described in the specification of Patent No. Sho 61-246653 (An Active Matrix Liquid Crystal Display and its Fabrication Method). In this invention, showed in Figure 2, for example, active matrix type substrate is made by adhering the device layer which active element is formed on the transparent glass substrate 201 by the transparent adhesive layer 202 like as epoxy or polyimide etc.

The details of the device layer is as follows: It is not showed in Figure 2. after the island shape poly-Si semiconductor layer 204 was formed and arranged to matrix shape on the thermal oxidative insulating film 203, for example, made of silicon dioxide, using the usual silicon IC and LSI process on the single crystal silicon substrate, the gate insulating film 205 and the gate electrode 206 are patterned in order. Next, to make TFT, after a source and drain region was formed in poly-Si semiconductor layer by ion implantation and etc., the insulating film 207 for separating the interconnection is formed, a contact hall is made, and the drain interconnection 208 for recording the signals by aluminum interconnection and the source contact 209 are patterned. The display electrode 210 is the transparent electrode made of ITO, and connected with the source contact The source contact does not need in this case, but it had better provide the source contact because the reliability of the connection with the source region through the contact hall more than 3,000 Å is usually lost in case of only the display electrode 210 of 500 Å. Last, to make the device layer of thin film, this single crystal silicon substrate is polished selectively from its underside to the thermal oxidative insulating film 203. Figure 3 shows the model plan view of the active matrix substrate containing the peripheral driver circuit. For example, peripheral driver circuit which is the scan driver circuit 301 consisting of the single crystal silicon transistor and the signal driver circuit 302 are provided around the active matrix elements formed by the matrix interconnection in which the gate electrode 206 is the horizontal interconnection and the drain interconnections 208 is the vertical one, and the picture element separated individually by poly-Si TFT 303 and the display electrode 210. The liquid crystal display is accomplished by the TN type liquid crystal 213 being interposed between the transparent counter electrode 212 made of ITO that the liquid crystal orientation film 211 (referring Figure 2) is formed on all over the display electrode 210 on the active matrix type substrate formed as above mentioned, and the counter substrate formed on all the surface of the transparent glass substrate 201(Figure 2).

(The Problem Which This Invention Would Resolve)

There are several methods of forming the liquid crystal orientation film 211. Recently, the rubbing method is used among them because of its ease in manufacturing. It is the method of polishing the organic film with the brush of which surface is made of cloth etc. to arrange the liquid crystal molecular in one direction after pattern forming the organic film, for example, made of polyimide etc. by printing etc. as the liquid crystal orientation film. In case of making the organic film formed on the active matrix type substrate showed in Figure 2 the liquid crystal orientation film 211 by rubbing, the level difference of the aluminum interconnection etc. does not cause the uniform orientation all over the region. Especially, it is remarkable around the display electrode 210. For example, the level difference by the film thickness of the aluminum interconnection is usually

more than 1µm, in the remarkable case, the region being rubbed is on the aluminum interconnection and it is no orientation on the display electrode 210 which should like to be rubbed. If the friction against the film is strengthened to make the surface of the display electrode 210 good condition for the orientation film, it may damage the TFT. In the conventional example as above mentioned, it was the bad yield structure causing the no-good orientation film at the rubbing for forming the liquid crystal orientation film 211, and damaging TFT. The active matrix type substrate forming poly-Si TFT directly on the quartz substrate has the same problem, too.

The purpose of this invention is providing the active matrix type substrate for the liquid crystal display of the good yield and high resolution by removing the conventional drawback.

(The Means to Solve the Problem)

To realize the above purpose, the active matrix type substrate for liquid crystal display consists of at least thin film semiconductor active elements formed in matrix shape on a insulating substrate, matrix interconnections for controlling and applying signals through said active elements, a transparent insulating planarizing film formed on said insulating substrate for covering said active elements and said matrix interconnections, and display electrodes formed on said insulating planarizing film.

(Embodiment)

An Embodiment of this invention is explained referring the Figure as follows.

Figure 1 shows the cross-section of the active matrix type substrate for

liquid crystal display for explanation of an Embodiment of this invention. In Figure 1, the structure of this Embodiment is as same as that of the conventional one: for example, the thin film device layer that has the active elements arranged in matrix shape made of poly-Si through intermediary of the adhesive layer 102 is provided on the cheap transparent glass substrate 101 as a susceptor. The material of the adhesive layer 102 is as same as that of the conventional example, for example, the transparent adhesive like as epoxy or polyimide.

The details of the device layer is explained as follows. It is not shown in the Figure, the silicon dioxide insulating film 103 is formed on the single crystal silicon substrate by thermal oxidation or CVD method. is not restricted especially, but that of more than 1,000 Å is desirable considering the polishing accuracy for forming the device layer mentioned The poly-Si semiconductor layer 104 is deposited on the insulating film 103, for example, by CVD method, and patterned in island shape to be the TFT channel region of matrix type separated from each picture element. Next, for example, the gate insulating film 105 made of silicon dioxide by thermal oxidation and the poly-Si gate electrode 106 are formed and patterned in order on the poly-Si semiconductor layer 104 by the same process as MOSFET of usual silicon IC. The poly-Si gate electrode 106 itself forms, for example, the horizontal interconnection of the matrix interconnection, and controls the switch of poly-Si TFT. After forming the source and drain regions in the poly-Si semiconductor layer 104, for example, by ion implantation, an insulating film 107 is formed for separating the gate electrode 106 from an aluminum interconnection to be formed later. and contact halls are formed in the source and drain regions. Next, after

aluminum is deposited all the surface of it to the thickness of about 1 µm, and patterned to the drain interconnection 108 to be a signal applying interconnection and the source contact 109. The drain interconnection 108 forms, for example, the vertical interconnection, and makes matrix interconnection with the horizontal interconnection of the gate electrode 106. The transparent insulating planarizing film 110 is formed by coating, for example, the silicon dioxide material for coating film (trade name: Tokyo Oka OCD) or the acryl resin material for coating film (trade name: Nihon Goseigomu JSS-451) on all the region surrounded with said matrix interconnection containing poly-Si TFT arranged at least in matrix shape to the thickness of about 1 µm to 2 µm by spincoat etc. and baking. Next, the contact halls are formed on said planarizing film 110 on the source contact 109 of all the poly-Si TFT arranged in matrix shape by photolithography, and the transparent display electrode 111 made of, for example, ITO connected to each source contact 109 and separated each picture element, is provided. The display electrode 111, which is the thin film of thickness of 500 Å to 1,000 Å, is desired to reduce the level difference by etch back, when the forming condition of the planarizing film 110 is that the level difference of contact hall is 0.5µm to 1µm. Last, the device layer is accomplished by polishing selectively from the underside of the single crystal silicon substrate mentioned in the conventional example. The planarizing film 110 and the display electrode 111 may be formed by the method of forming on the active matrix type substrate after polishing the single crystal silicon substrate.

In the active matrix type substrate of this Embodiment which the device layer formed as above mentioned is bonded on the glass substrate 101 through intermediary of the adhesive layer 102, the level difference of about

1μm by the matrix interconnection etc. is reduced to about 0.1μm to 0.2μm by the planarizing film 110. The level difference by the matrix interconnection etc. is sharp by photolithography, but becomes smooth by the planarizing film 110. Therefore, the liquid crystal orientation film 112 formed on the display electrode etc. becomes flat and the whole of the liquid crystal orientation film can be rubbed equally without damaging TFT and the no-good orientation film is not produced.

In this Embodiment, the method of forming the peripheral driver circuit on the single crystal silicon substrate is as same as the conventional example showed in Figure 3 and the planarizing process can be used, too. And, in this Embodiment, we explained the active matrix type substrate forming poly-Si TFT on the single crystal silicon substrate, but this invention can apply to forming poly-Si TFT directly on the quartz substrate mentioned in the conventional example, or to the active matrix type substrate of a-Si TFT or TFD etc.

(The Effect of This Invention)

As above mentioned, by the active matrix type substrate for liquid crystal display of this invention, the good liquid crystal display is possible by making the sharp and high level difference by the aluminum interconnection etc. smooth and flat surface by the easy process of spincoat of the planarizing film 111, and by being formed the uniform and good liquid crystal orientation film 112 by rubbing. A strong frictional rubbing is not necessary, and it is no-defect and high yield structure of less damage to the aluminum interconnection and TFT at rubbing.

The Brief Explanation of the Figures

Patent Attorney Shin Uchihara

Figure 1 shows the cross-section of the active matrix type substrate for liquid crystal display for the explanation of an Embodiment of this invention. Figure 2 shows the cross-section of the active matrix type liquid crystal display for the explanation of the conventional example. Figure 3 shows the model plan view of the active matrix type substrate for liquid crystal display for the explanation of this invention and the conventional example.

101 and 201 --- glass substrate, 102 and 202 --- adhesive layer

103 and 203 --- insulating film, 104 and 204 --- poly-Si semiconductor layer

105 and 205 --- gate insulating film, 106 and 206 --- gate electrode

107 and 207 --- insulating film for separating interconnection

108 and 208 --- drain interconnection, 109 and 209 --- source contact

110 --- planarizing film, 111 and 210 --- display electrode

213 --- liquid crystal, 301 --- scan driver circuit, 302 --- signal driver circuit

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ACTIVE MATRIX SUBSTRATE FOR LIQUID CRYSTAL DISPLAY DEVICE (English)

Patent Assignee: NIPPON ELECTRIC CO

Author (Inventor): SUMIYOSHI KEN; SAKAMOTO MIKIO

IPC: *G02F-001/136; G09F-009/30 JAPIO Reference No: 140551P000018 Language of Document: Japanese

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液晶表示装置用アクテイプマトリクス基板

頭 平1-55344 の特

至 1(1989)3月7日 多出

伊発 明 者

研 鈴

東京都港区芝5丁目33番1号 日本電気株式会社内

伊発 明 署 坂

東京都港区芝5丁目33番1号 日本電気株式会社内 雄

创出 頭 人 日本電気株式会社

東京都港区芝5丁目7番1号

MAC 理人 弁理十 内原

住

発明の名称

液晶表示要置用アクティブマトリクス基板

特許預求の範囲

絶縁性器板上に、マトリクス状に形成され薄膜 半導体アクティブ素子. 波アクティブ素子を通じ 信号を創御、印加するためのマトリクス配雄、前 紀アクティブ素子および前記マトリスク配雄を獲 い前記地域住器板上に形成された透明の絶換性平 坦化膜、該避掉性平坦化膜上に形成された表示電 極とから少なくとも構成された事を特徴とする液 晶表示設置用アクティアマトリスク基度。

発明の詳細な説明

〔産業上の利用分野〕

本発明は、薄膜半導体を用いたアクティブ素子 を有する液晶表示装置用アクティブマトリクス基 板に関する。

〔從来の技術〕

近年、薄額トランジスタ(TFT)や薄膜ダイ オード(TFD)等の薄膜半導体を用いたアクテ ィブ素子を各画景毎に設け、高麗質化を狙ったア クティブマトリクス液晶表示装置の開発が活発で ある。この象な液晶表示装置は、液晶を2枚の基 板ではさんだ構造で、一方は前記アクティブ系子 をマトリクス状に形成したアクティブマトリクス 基板、他方は例えばガラス基板上全面に透明な極 を形成してなる対向基盤から構成されている。液 品としては通常コントラストの高くとれるTN型 が多く用いられるため、アクティブ君子形成用当 仮らガラス等の透明番板を利用した透過型液品表 示弦量が開発されている.

アクティブ素子のチャネル領域となる薄膜半導 体材料としては、主にアモルファスシリコン(a -Si)やポリシリコン(poly-Si)が使 用されている。a‐Siは、低温で脳形成が可能 な事から安価なガラス器板を使用でき、最近の多 くのポケット型液晶テレビ等に応用されている。

PolyーS!は、aーS!より移動度が大きく、また単語品シリコン、aーS!に比べ極端に光虚度が観く、つまり光に対し非常に安定な、高性能アクティブ素子を実現できる。このためいる情報である。など安価なガラス基板が使える程の低温で、信便に大面積形成が可能な技術が熟成していないのが現状である。

 よびその製造方法」の明細書中に述べられている。この発明によれば、第2因に示す様に例えば、選明ガラス器板201上にエボキシまたはポリイミド等の透明な接着層202によりアクティブ系子が形成されたデバイス層を接着し、アクティブマトリクス器板を構成している。

される、この場合、符にソースコンタクトは無く てかまわないが、500人程度の表示電腦210 だけでは通常3000A以上のコンタクトホール を通してソース領域との接続の信頼性が無くなる ので、ソースコンタクトは有る方がよい。最後 に、この単結晶シリコン基根を裏面から選択ポリ ッシングにより無酸化絶縁膜 2-0 3まで研磨し、 浮膜のデバイス層としている。周辺駆動回路まで 含めたアクティブマトリクス基板の模式的平面図 を第3因に示す、例えばゲート電極206を水平 重提、ドレイン配線208を垂直配線とするマト リクス配提とPoly-SiTFT303岁よび 表示電極210で各々分離された画素とから形成 されたアクティブマトリクス素子部の周囲に、周 辺閣動回路である例えば単結晶シリコントランジ スタで補成された走変駆動回路301、信号駆動 回路302が設置されている。以上の様にして形 或されたアクティブマトリクス基板上に液晶配向 展211(第2因参照)を少なくても表示電極 210上全面に形成し、ITOからなる説明性対 向電極212が透明ガラス基級201全面に形成された対向基級とでTN型液晶213をはさむ事により液晶表示装置が完成される(第2図)、 (発明が解決しようとする課題)

ところで液晶配向限211を形成する方法とし て何限理かあるがその中で最近では、製造が非常 に容易なラピング法が用いられている。これは、 液晶配向膜として例えばポリイミド等の有処鎖を 印製等でパターン形成した後、波晶分子が一方向 に配列する機に、布等の表面の福毛で有過酸を摩 譲する方法である。この方法により、第2国に示 した様にアクティブマトリクス芸板上に形成した 有機膜をラピングで液晶配両膜211とする場 合、アルミ配延等の段差により全域にわたり均一 な配向が待られない。神に、段遷部、つまり表示 ■極210の周辺部で顕著となる。例えばアルミ 配線の膜厚による段差は、通常1μm以上となり 顕著な場合、ラピングされるのはほとんどアルミ 配線上で、ラビングしたい表示電腦210上は無 配向となってしまう。また表示電価210上を及

野な配向限とするためは扱力を強くしたりすると、TFTに損傷を与えかねない、以上の機には来例においては、液晶配向限211形成のラピング時において配向膜不良をおこしたり、またTFTに損煙を与えたりする歩留りの悪い構造とすった。以上の課題は、石英盃板上に直接すっしょった。以上の課題は、石英盃板上に直接すっしょった。以上の課題は、石英盃板上に直接すっしまる。

本発明の目的は、この後を従来の欠点を取り除き、高歩留りで高性能な液晶表示装置用アクティブマトリクス番板を提供する事にある。 (課題を解決するための手段)

上記目的を達成するためには、本発明の液晶表示設置用アクティブマトリクスがに形成され障膜半導体アクティブ素子を通じ信号を対し、印加するためのマトリクス配理、前記アクティブ素子および前記マトリスク配理を預い前記を必要と表示を通じた通明の絶縁性平坦化膜、

諡逸論性平坦化態上に形成された表示電極とから

に例えばCVD法によりPoly-SL半導体層 104を蒸着、マトリクス状の各画素毎の.TFT チャネル領域となる根に島状にバターン化する。 疑いてpoly-Sl半導体層104上に例えば 無酸化による二酸化シリコンからなるゲート絶縁. 膜105, poly-Siゲート電極106を通 常のシリコンICのMOSFETと同毒なプロセー スで順次形成、パターン化する、Poly-Si ゲート電極106は、そのままマトリクス配線の 例えば水平配線を形成し、poly-SiTFT .の閉閉制御を行なう。poly-Si半薄体層 104にソース、ドレイン領域を形成する例えば イオン注入を行なった後、ゲート電極106と後 のアルミ配組を分離する配扱分離用絶縁膜107 を形成し、ソース、ドレイン領域にコンタクトホ ールをあける。次いで、厚さ1μm程度にアルミ ニウムを全面高着後、信号印加配線となるドレイ ン配提108およびソースコンタスト109にパ ターン化する。ドレイン配線108は例えば垂直 配設を形成しゲート電極106の水平配達とでマ

少なくとも構成されたものである。 (実施例)

以下本発明の一実施例について図面を参照して設明する。

以下デバイス層について評細に説明する。因示されていないが単結晶シリコン画板上に無額化法やCVD法等により二酸化シリコンの絶縁度103を形成する。厚さは特に限度は無いが後で述べるデバイス層を形成するための研磨積度から1000人以上が望ましい。この絶過膜103上

トリクス配提を構成する、その後、少なくともマ トリクス状に配列されたPoly-SiTFTを **きむ前記マトリクス配奨で囲まれた領域全面に、** 例えば二酸化シリコン系塗腹材料(商品名 東京 西化製OCD) あるいはアクリル系樹脂強膜材料 (商品名 日本合成ゴム製」SS-451)等を 1 μm~2μm程度スピンコート等で堕布し焼成 する事により週明の絶縁性平坦化膜110を形成 する、次に、マトリクス状に配列された全ての poly-SiTFTのソースコンタクト109 上の前記平坦化膜110にフォトリソグラフィに よりコンタクトホールを形成し、各々のソースコ ンタクト109と接続され各産業に分離された例 えば1T0からなる遺明の表示電極111を投資 する。この時表示電極111は、例えば500人 ~1000人の存版であるため、例えばコンタク トホール部の段差が0.5 μm~1 μmとなる様 な平坦化展110形成条件である場合は、エッチ パック等により段差低減が望ましい、最後に、従 来例で述べた様に選択ポリッシングを用い、単店 尚、本実施例では、周辺駆動回路を単結品シリコン基板上に構成するのは第3回に示す従来例と同じで、平坦化プロセスは共用も可能である。また、本実施例では、単結品シリコン基板上に

第1図は本発明の一実施例を説明するための液 品表示装置用アクティブマトリクス毒板の断面 図、第2図は従来を説明するためのアクティブマ トリクス液晶表示装置の断面図、第3図は本発明 および従来例を説明するための液晶表示装置用ア クティブマトリクス基板の模式的平面図である。

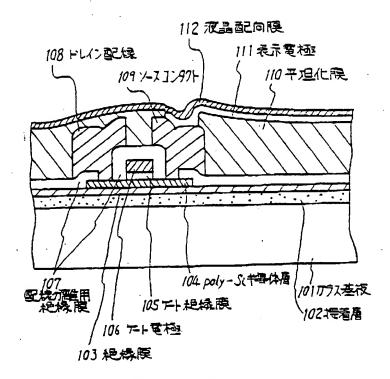
101、201…ガラス語板、102、202 …接者層、103、203…絶益膜、104、 204…poly-S1半導体層、105、20 5…ゲート絶経膜、106、206…ゲート電 低、107、207…配線分離用絶経膜、10 8、208…ドレイン配線、109、209…ソースコンタスト、110…平坦化膜、111、 210…表示電極、112、211…液晶配向 膜、212…対向電極、213…液晶、301… 由音脳動回路、302…信号駆動回路。

代理人 弁理士 内 原 質

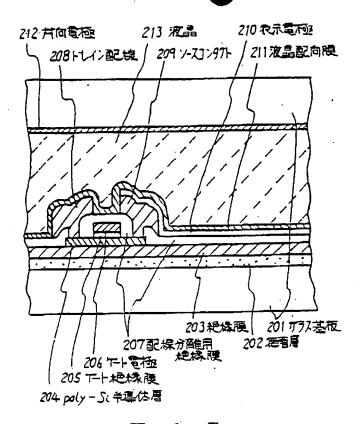
poly-SiTFTを形成するアクティブマトリクス基板について説明したが、従来例で述べた石英基板上に直接poly-SiTFTを形成する場合でもさらにα-SiTFTやTFD等のアクティブマトリクス基板においても本発明は適用できる。

(発明の効果)

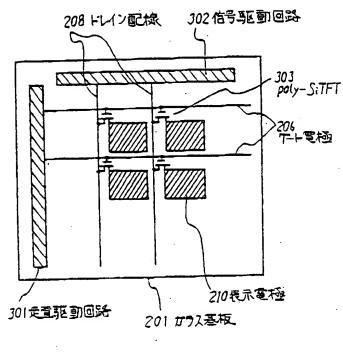
図面の簡単な説明



第 1 図







弄 3 図